**Washington**, **DC** – Congressman Bruce Braley (D-lowa) released the following statement after the House passed an extension of unemployment benefits, finally sending the legislation to President Obama's desk for a final signature. The bill stalled in the Senate for seven weeks before Democrats were finally able to overcome a Republican filibuster this week.

"These unemployment benefits are a long-overdue lifeline to many struggling middle class families," Braley said. "For too long, Senate Republicans played political games with struggling families in their most desperate hour. The House has been working to pass this safety net for months and it's a relief to know that lowa families will finally be getting the help they so urgently need."